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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,612	01/17/2002	Ravikumar Pisupati	100200239-1	3020

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EXAMINER

AVELLINO, JOSEPH E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2143

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/052,612

Applicant(s)

PISUPATI, RAVIKUMAR

Examiner

Joseph E. Avellino

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-29 and 31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-29 and 31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-6, 8-29, and 31 are presented for examination; claims 1, 11, and 26 independent. The Office acknowledges the cancellation of claim 30

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1, 4-6, 11, 13-16, 26, 27, 29, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright et al. (USPN 6,973,589) (hereinafter Wright) in view of Edson (USPN 6,526,581).

3. Referring to claim 1, Wright discloses a computer network 100 for providing services (i.e. operation of the power system 107; e.g. abstract), comprising:

a computing elements (i.e. power system 107) each supports one or more services (col. 5, line 61 to col. 6, line 7);

a mail server (i.e. electronic mailbox 220) for receiving and routing email (col. 6, lines 44-57);

a redirector (i.e. intelligent electronic device 105), communicatively connected to each of said computing elements (i.e. in the power system 107), configured to receive email from an email server (i.e. access the mailbox to receive incoming email) (col. 6, lines 44-57), wherein each email contains a command or data for a specific said service

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(i.e. monitor control and/or protect the equipment) (col. 7, lines 19-23), with or without being addressed to a specific computing element (an inherent feature is that the email must identify the specific element to be acted upon, otherwise the IED would never know which element to act upon), and wherein said redirector is configured to selectively match an available computing element with a specific service request (i.e. command) of an incoming email and forward at least a portion of the email so as to deliver said command to that specific device (an inherent feature is that since the email indicates what command to execute, the IED forwards at least a portion of the email to the element since the IED sends the command to the element) such that said redirector serves as an email proxy for the computing elements (i.e. the IED interprets the email for the elements, and therefore acts on the elements behalf as a proxy) (e.g. abstract; Figure 4; col. 7, line 50 to col. 8, line 18);

wherein said electronic services are controlled by email messages routed by said redirector among said plurality of computing elements (i.e. the email contains commands to be executed on the power system elements (e.g. abstract).

Wright does not explicitly state that there can be multiple computing elements (i.e. multiple power systems 107) connected to the IED. In analogous art, Edson discloses another multi service network communications system which discloses receiving a message from an external network, and executing at least one command on a device on an internal network, wherein the internal network includes a plurality of computing devices (Figure 1; col. 15, lines 29-48). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Edson with Wright in order to allow

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the user to connect to multiple devices on a home network and remotely monitor and control the devices when away from home as supported by Edson (col. 15, lines 29-48).

4. Referring to claim 4, Wright discloses said redirector comprises a service handler for extracting an access function from incoming email messages (i.e. "receives the command") (Figure 4, ref. 405; col. 7, line 50 to col. 8, line 18); and

said service handler complies with said extracted access function by transmitting a command to the element (i.e. "process the command") (Figure 4, ref. 420; col. 7, line 50 to col. 8, line 18).

5. Referring to claim 5, Wright discloses the commands comprise a service (i.e. a command is construed as a service, since the command is performing a service, such as monitoring, on the element) (e.g. abstract).

6. Referring to claim 6, Wright discloses the command comprises a specified location for where a service can be accessed (i.e. following the rationale behind the modification of Wright above, an inherent feature would be that the email/command would require the user to identify which computing element the command is to be enacted upon) (col. 7, lines 50-67).

7. Claims 11, and 13-16, 22, 23, are rejected for similar reasons as stated above.

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8. Referring to claim 26, Wright discloses a computing element (i.e. IED) which comprises computing resources for supporting one or more electronic services where the services can be controlled by email (i.e. control of a power system) (e.g. abstract); and

a service handler for automatically obtaining an electronic service using an incoming email and installing that service on the computing element corresponding to the service handler (i.e. receiving operating code) (col. 7, lines 18-40).

Wright does not explicitly state multiple IED's (i.e. computing elements), however it has been held obvious to duplicate elements for multiple effects. See *St. Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8 (7th Cir. 1977). By this rationale, one of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious to link up multiple IED's in order to command a plurality of different power systems, thereby allowing various IED's to command systems in possibly geographically distinct locations.

9. Referring to claim 27, Wright discloses the service handler extracts said service from the email (i.e. "receive information...take appropriate action in response to such information") (col. 7, lines 18-40).

10. Referring to claim 29, Wright discloses a redirector to serve as an email proxy, wherein the services are controlled by email messages routed by said redirector (i.e. this is an inherent feature, since the messages routed the IED via the electronic mailbox are those commands which are executed).

11. Claim 31 is rejected for similar reasons as stated above.

Claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 17, 18, 21-25 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright in view of Edson in view of Motoyama (USPN 5,819,110).

12. Referring to claim 2, Wright-Edson discloses the invention substantively as described in claim 1. Wright-Edson does not specifically disclose the computing elements have a service handler configured to extract the service function from the email message. In analogous art, Motoyama discloses another computer network for providing services comprising each of the computing elements has a service handler (i.e. parsing process) (Figure 7; col. 7, line 62 to col. 8, line 10); and

said service handler on a computing element extracts an access function (i.e. action) from an incoming email message and complies with said extracted access function (Figure 6; col. 7, line 62 to col. 8, line 10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Motoyama with Wright-Edson in order to allow the remote user of Wright (i.e. the command requestor (col. 7, line 61) the ability to know the machine's capabilities, thereby ensuring that the user is fully aware what commands the devices can and cannot, or will not, execute, thereby increasing customer interaction.

13. Referring to claim 3, Wright-Edson discloses the invention substantively as described in claim 1. Wright-Edson does not specifically disclose the redirector routes email messages, rather interprets them. In analogous art, Motoyama discloses another computer network for providing services comprising a mail router (i.e. mail server) for routing email messages (col. 7, lines 27-44). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Motoyama with Wright-Edson in order to allow the remote user of Wright (i.e. the command requestor (col. 7, line 61) the ability to know the machine's capabilities, thereby ensuring that the user is fully aware what commands the devices can and cannot, or will not, execute, thereby increasing customer interaction.

14. Referring to claim 8, Wright-Edson discloses the invention substantively as described in claim 1. Wright-Edson does not specifically disclose using a firewall. In analogous art, Motoyama discloses another computer network for providing services comprising a firewall 14 (Figure 1) through which email messages are received, said redirector being protected within said firewall (Figure 1; col. 7, lines 7-45). Motoyama does not disclose that the redirector and email server are protected via a common firewall, however it is well known that firewalls can protect computing entities from a wide area network. BY this rationale, "Official Notice" is taken that both the concept and advantages of providing for a firewall to protect the email processing center is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Motoyama and Wright-Edson in order to allow the email

processing center 100 the ability to ward off attacks and viruses from hackers. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Motoyama with Wright-Edson in order to allow the remote user of Wright (i.e. the command requestor (col. 7, line 61) the ability to know the machine's capabilities, thereby ensuring that the user is fully aware what commands the devices can and cannot, or will not, execute, thereby increasing customer interaction.

15. Referring to claim 9, Wright discloses the invention substantively as described in claim 1. Wright further discloses various web clients on the local area network (Figure 1, ref. 110). As shown above, a LAN can be protected from the WAN via a firewall. Therefore one of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious that the web client is within the firewall communication with the redirector to obtain access to said services since it would ward off attacks and viruses from hackers.

16. Claims 12, 17, 18, 21-25, and 28 are rejected for similar reasons as stated above. Furthermore Motoyama discloses sending a response email message following compliance with said extracted access function (col. 8, lines 1-10).

Claims 10, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright in view of Edson in view of Motoyama in view of Weber et al. (USPN 6,480,901) (hereinafter Weber).

17. Referring to claim 10, Wright in view of Edson in view of Motoyama discloses the invention substantively as described in claim 9. Wright in view of Edson in view of Motoyama does not specifically disclose generating web pages related to the services of the web client. In analogous art, Weber disclose the proxy server generating web pages related to the services for the client (Figure 7; col. 14, lines 23-41). It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Weber with Motoyama, Wright, and Edson in order to allow the email clients of Motoyama to address the proxy server system of Weber in order to be able to incorporate a plurality of different devices utilizing different protocols to the network without requiring the user know beforehand what the specific form for the protocol and device in question, thereby providing a common platform for management as well as only one point wherein updates are required, thereby reducing complexity of the overall system.

18. Claims 19-20, and 22-29 are rejected for similar reasons as stated above.

Response to Arguments

19. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-6, 8-29, and 31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

20. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

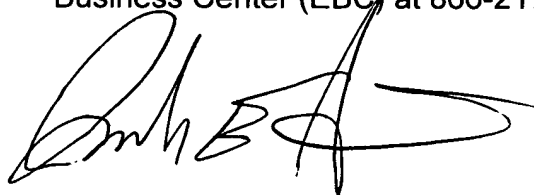
21. Applicant has failed to seasonably challenge the Examiner's assertions of well known subject matter in the previous Office action(s) pursuant to the requirements set forth under MPEP §2144.03. A "seasonable challenge" is an explicit demand for evidence set forth by Applicant in the next response. Accordingly, the claim limitations the Examiner considered as "well known" in the first Office action are now established as admitted prior art of record for the course of the prosecution. See *In re Chevenard*, 139 F.2d 71, 60 USPQ 239 (CCPA 1943).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph E. Avellino whose telephone number is (571) 272-3905. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe E. Avellino', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph E. Avellino, Examiner
September 25, 2006